



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE  
CHAIRWOMAN

June 20, 2023

The Honorable Earl L. Carter  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2432 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Carter:

Thank you for your letter regarding the status of the *Enhanced A-CAM Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, a proceeding in which the Federal Communications Commission sought comment on a proposal to revise the Alternative Connect America Model (A-CAM) program to provide additional universal service support to certain rural carriers in exchange for increasing deployment to more locations at higher speeds. I share your view that the agency's universal service programs have played a critical role delivering communications services to remote communities across the country. But in order to ensure the continued effectiveness of these programs, the Commission reviews them when time advances and technology changes. That's why in order to keep pace with the demand for reliable broadband and meet the needs of consumers today and into the future, we need to optimize the Commission's high-cost programs to bring higher speeds and greater bandwidth to consumers, particularly for those living in hard-to-reach areas.

I am pleased to inform you that last week, I circulated a Report and Order for my colleagues' consideration that would create the Enhanced A-CAM program. If adopted, the Report and Order would provide a voluntary pathway where current A-CAM carriers could elect to serve all locations in their service areas at 100/20 Mbps or greater in return for an extension of the A-CAM program and an incremental increase in support for expensive-to-serve areas. The Report and Order would also provide a path for carriers currently receiving Connect America Fund Broadband Loop Support (CAF BLS) legacy support to transition to Enhanced A-CAM model-based support. In addition, the Enhanced A-CAM program would include requirements to complement existing federal, state, and local funding programs, including the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) program authorized by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. By providing carriers who elect to participate in the Enhanced A-CAM program the opportunity to establish an enforceable commitment to locations they serve, broadband funding can be used efficiently to maximize the deployment of high-quality broadband service across the United States.

In addition, I shared a rulemaking with my fellow Commissioners that, if adopted, would seek comment on how to address the immediate needs of legacy rate-of return support mechanisms, including the budget control mechanism and deployment obligations, while

balancing our objectives of maintaining our commitment to supporting broadband at evolving levels of service and also avoiding unnecessary duplication of support in light of other available funding programs. Finally, I also circulated a inquiry in order to develop a record that takes a longer term view on the future of the high-cost program in order to ensure affordable and available broadband services in the years to come.

I hope this information is helpful. Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

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Jessica Rosenworcel



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE  
CHAIRWOMAN

June 20, 2023

The Honorable Mark Pocan  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1026 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Pocan:

Thank you for your letter regarding the status of the *Enhanced A-CAM Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, a proceeding in which the Federal Communications Commission sought comment on a proposal to revise the Alternative Connect America Model (A-CAM) program to provide additional universal service support to certain rural carriers in exchange for increasing deployment to more locations at higher speeds. I share your view that the agency's universal service programs have played a critical role delivering communications services to remote communities across the country. But in order to ensure the continued effectiveness of these programs, the Commission reviews them when time advances and technology changes. That's why in order to keep pace with the demand for reliable broadband and meet the needs of consumers today and into the future, we need to optimize the Commission's high-cost programs to bring higher speeds and greater bandwidth to consumers, particularly for those living in hard-to-reach areas.

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OFFICE OF THE  
CHAIRWOMAN

June 20, 2023

The Honorable Donald M. Payne, Jr.  
U.S. House of Representatives  
106 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Payne, Jr.:

Thank you for your letter regarding the status of the *Enhanced A-CAM Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, a proceeding in which the Federal Communications Commission sought comment on a proposal to revise the Alternative Connect America Model (A-CAM) program to provide additional universal service support to certain rural carriers in exchange for increasing deployment to more locations at higher speeds. I share your view that the agency's universal service programs have played a critical role delivering communications services to remote communities across the country. But in order to ensure the continued effectiveness of these programs, the Commission reviews them when time advances and technology changes. That's why in order to keep pace with the demand for reliable broadband and meet the needs of consumers today and into the future, we need to optimize the Commission's high-cost programs to bring higher speeds and greater bandwidth to consumers, particularly for those living in hard-to-reach areas.

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June 20, 2023

The Honorable Richard Hudson  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2112 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Hudson:

Thank you for your letter regarding the status of the *Enhanced A-CAM Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, a proceeding in which the Federal Communications Commission sought comment on a proposal to revise the Alternative Connect America Model (A-CAM) program to provide additional universal service support to certain rural carriers in exchange for increasing deployment to more locations at higher speeds. I share your view that the agency's universal service programs have played a critical role delivering communications services to remote communities across the country. But in order to ensure the continued effectiveness of these programs, the Commission reviews them when time advances and technology changes. That's why in order to keep pace with the demand for reliable broadband and meet the needs of consumers today and into the future, we need to optimize the Commission's high-cost programs to bring higher speeds and greater bandwidth to consumers, particularly for those living in hard-to-reach areas.

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June 20, 2023

The Honorable Nicholas Langworthy  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1630 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Langworthy:

Thank you for your letter regarding the status of the *Enhanced A-CAM Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, a proceeding in which the Federal Communications Commission sought comment on a proposal to revise the Alternative Connect America Model (A-CAM) program to provide additional universal service support to certain rural carriers in exchange for increasing deployment to more locations at higher speeds. I share your view that the agency's universal service programs have played a critical role delivering communications services to remote communities across the country. But in order to ensure the continued effectiveness of these programs, the Commission reviews them when time advances and technology changes. That's why in order to keep pace with the demand for reliable broadband and meet the needs of consumers today and into the future, we need to optimize the Commission's high-cost programs to bring higher speeds and greater bandwidth to consumers, particularly for those living in hard-to-reach areas.

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
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OFFICE OF THE  
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June 20, 2023

The Honorable Jasmine Crockett  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1616 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Crockett:

Thank you for your letter regarding the status of the *Enhanced A-CAM Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, a proceeding in which the Federal Communications Commission sought comment on a proposal to revise the Alternative Connect America Model (A-CAM) program to provide additional universal service support to certain rural carriers in exchange for increasing deployment to more locations at higher speeds. I share your view that the agency's universal service programs have played a critical role delivering communications services to remote communities across the country. But in order to ensure the continued effectiveness of these programs, the Commission reviews them when time advances and technology changes. That's why in order to keep pace with the demand for reliable broadband and meet the needs of consumers today and into the future, we need to optimize the Commission's high-cost programs to bring higher speeds and greater bandwidth to consumers, particularly for those living in hard-to-reach areas.

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
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OFFICE OF THE  
CHAIRWOMAN

June 20, 2023

The Honorable Ed Case  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2210 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Case:

Thank you for your letter regarding the status of the *Enhanced A-CAM Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, a proceeding in which the Federal Communications Commission sought comment on a proposal to revise the Alternative Connect America Model (A-CAM) program to provide additional universal service support to certain rural carriers in exchange for increasing deployment to more locations at higher speeds. I share your view that the agency's universal service programs have played a critical role delivering communications services to remote communities across the country. But in order to ensure the continued effectiveness of these programs, the Commission reviews them when time advances and technology changes. That's why in order to keep pace with the demand for reliable broadband and meet the needs of consumers today and into the future, we need to optimize the Commission's high-cost programs to bring higher speeds and greater bandwidth to consumers, particularly for those living in hard-to-reach areas.

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OFFICE OF THE  
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June 20, 2023

The Honorable Sharice Davids  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2435 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Davids:

Thank you for your letter regarding the status of the *Enhanced A-CAM Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, a proceeding in which the Federal Communications Commission sought comment on a proposal to revise the Alternative Connect America Model (A-CAM) program to provide additional universal service support to certain rural carriers in exchange for increasing deployment to more locations at higher speeds. I share your view that the agency's universal service programs have played a critical role delivering communications services to remote communities across the country. But in order to ensure the continued effectiveness of these programs, the Commission reviews them when time advances and technology changes. That's why in order to keep pace with the demand for reliable broadband and meet the needs of consumers today and into the future, we need to optimize the Commission's high-cost programs to bring higher speeds and greater bandwidth to consumers, particularly for those living in hard-to-reach areas.

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
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OFFICE OF THE  
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June 20, 2023

The Honorable Carol Miller  
U.S. House of Representatives  
465 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Miller:

Thank you for your letter regarding the status of the *Enhanced A-CAM Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, a proceeding in which the Federal Communications Commission sought comment on a proposal to revise the Alternative Connect America Model (A-CAM) program to provide additional universal service support to certain rural carriers in exchange for increasing deployment to more locations at higher speeds. I share your view that the agency's universal service programs have played a critical role delivering communications services to remote communities across the country. But in order to ensure the continued effectiveness of these programs, the Commission reviews them when time advances and technology changes. That's why in order to keep pace with the demand for reliable broadband and meet the needs of consumers today and into the future, we need to optimize the Commission's high-cost programs to bring higher speeds and greater bandwidth to consumers, particularly for those living in hard-to-reach areas.

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
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CHAIRWOMAN

June 20, 2023

The Honorable Ann McLane Kuster  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2201 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Kuster:

Thank you for your letter regarding the status of the *Enhanced A-CAM Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, a proceeding in which the Federal Communications Commission sought comment on a proposal to revise the Alternative Connect America Model (A-CAM) program to provide additional universal service support to certain rural carriers in exchange for increasing deployment to more locations at higher speeds. I share your view that the agency's universal service programs have played a critical role delivering communications services to remote communities across the country. But in order to ensure the continued effectiveness of these programs, the Commission reviews them when time advances and technology changes. That's why in order to keep pace with the demand for reliable broadband and meet the needs of consumers today and into the future, we need to optimize the Commission's high-cost programs to bring higher speeds and greater bandwidth to consumers, particularly for those living in hard-to-reach areas.

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June 20, 2023

The Honorable Rick Allen  
U.S. House of Representatives  
462 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Allen:

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The Honorable Scott Fitzgerald  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1507 Longworth House Office Building  
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Dear Representative Fitzgerald:

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Sincerely,

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Jessica Rosenworcel



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE  
CHAIRWOMAN

June 20, 2023

The Honorable Rick Crawford  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2422 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Crawford:

Thank you for your letter regarding the status of the *Enhanced A-CAM Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, a proceeding in which the Federal Communications Commission sought comment on a proposal to revise the Alternative Connect America Model (A-CAM) program to provide additional universal service support to certain rural carriers in exchange for increasing deployment to more locations at higher speeds. I share your view that the agency's universal service programs have played a critical role delivering communications services to remote communities across the country. But in order to ensure the continued effectiveness of these programs, the Commission reviews them when time advances and technology changes. That's why in order to keep pace with the demand for reliable broadband and meet the needs of consumers today and into the future, we need to optimize the Commission's high-cost programs to bring higher speeds and greater bandwidth to consumers, particularly for those living in hard-to-reach areas.

I am pleased to inform you that last week, I circulated a Report and Order for my colleagues' consideration that would create the Enhanced A-CAM program. If adopted, the Report and Order would provide a voluntary pathway where current A-CAM carriers could elect to serve all locations in their service areas at 100/20 Mbps or greater in return for an extension of the A-CAM program and an incremental increase in support for expensive-to-serve areas. The Report and Order would also provide a path for carriers currently receiving Connect America Fund Broadband Loop Support (CAF BLS) legacy support to transition to Enhanced A-CAM model-based support. In addition, the Enhanced A-CAM program would include requirements to complement existing federal, state, and local funding programs, including the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) program authorized by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. By providing carriers who elect to participate in the Enhanced A-CAM program the opportunity to establish an enforceable commitment to locations they serve, broadband funding can be used efficiently to maximize the deployment of high-quality broadband service across the United States.

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE  
CHAIRWOMAN

June 20, 2023

The Honorable Stephanie L. Bice  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2437 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Bice:

Thank you for your letter regarding the status of the *Enhanced A-CAM Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, a proceeding in which the Federal Communications Commission sought comment on a proposal to revise the Alternative Connect America Model (A-CAM) program to provide additional universal service support to certain rural carriers in exchange for increasing deployment to more locations at higher speeds. I share your view that the agency's universal service programs have played a critical role delivering communications services to remote communities across the country. But in order to ensure the continued effectiveness of these programs, the Commission reviews them when time advances and technology changes. That's why in order to keep pace with the demand for reliable broadband and meet the needs of consumers today and into the future, we need to optimize the Commission's high-cost programs to bring higher speeds and greater bandwidth to consumers, particularly for those living in hard-to-reach areas.

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE  
CHAIRWOMAN

June 20, 2023

The Honorable Mike Bost  
U.S. House of Representatives  
352 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Bost:

Thank you for your letter regarding the status of the *Enhanced A-CAM Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, a proceeding in which the Federal Communications Commission sought comment on a proposal to revise the Alternative Connect America Model (A-CAM) program to provide additional universal service support to certain rural carriers in exchange for increasing deployment to more locations at higher speeds. I share your view that the agency's universal service programs have played a critical role delivering communications services to remote communities across the country. But in order to ensure the continued effectiveness of these programs, the Commission reviews them when time advances and technology changes. That's why in order to keep pace with the demand for reliable broadband and meet the needs of consumers today and into the future, we need to optimize the Commission's high-cost programs to bring higher speeds and greater bandwidth to consumers, particularly for those living in hard-to-reach areas.

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE  
CHAIRWOMAN

June 20, 2023

The Honorable Bruce Westerman  
U.S. House of Representatives  
202 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Westerman:

Thank you for your letter regarding the status of the *Enhanced A-CAM Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, a proceeding in which the Federal Communications Commission sought comment on a proposal to revise the Alternative Connect America Model (A-CAM) program to provide additional universal service support to certain rural carriers in exchange for increasing deployment to more locations at higher speeds. I share your view that the agency's universal service programs have played a critical role delivering communications services to remote communities across the country. But in order to ensure the continued effectiveness of these programs, the Commission reviews them when time advances and technology changes. That's why in order to keep pace with the demand for reliable broadband and meet the needs of consumers today and into the future, we need to optimize the Commission's high-cost programs to bring higher speeds and greater bandwidth to consumers, particularly for those living in hard-to-reach areas.

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE  
CHAIRWOMAN

June 20, 2023

The Honorable Tracey Mann  
U.S. House of Representatives  
344 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Mann:

Thank you for your letter regarding the status of the *Enhanced A-CAM Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, a proceeding in which the Federal Communications Commission sought comment on a proposal to revise the Alternative Connect America Model (A-CAM) program to provide additional universal service support to certain rural carriers in exchange for increasing deployment to more locations at higher speeds. I share your view that the agency's universal service programs have played a critical role delivering communications services to remote communities across the country. But in order to ensure the continued effectiveness of these programs, the Commission reviews them when time advances and technology changes. That's why in order to keep pace with the demand for reliable broadband and meet the needs of consumers today and into the future, we need to optimize the Commission's high-cost programs to bring higher speeds and greater bandwidth to consumers, particularly for those living in hard-to-reach areas.

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE  
CHAIRWOMAN

June 20, 2023

The Honorable Greg Pence  
U.S. House of Representatives  
404 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Pence:

Thank you for your letter regarding the status of the *Enhanced A-CAM Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, a proceeding in which the Federal Communications Commission sought comment on a proposal to revise the Alternative Connect America Model (A-CAM) program to provide additional universal service support to certain rural carriers in exchange for increasing deployment to more locations at higher speeds. I share your view that the agency's universal service programs have played a critical role delivering communications services to remote communities across the country. But in order to ensure the continued effectiveness of these programs, the Commission reviews them when time advances and technology changes. That's why in order to keep pace with the demand for reliable broadband and meet the needs of consumers today and into the future, we need to optimize the Commission's high-cost programs to bring higher speeds and greater bandwidth to consumers, particularly for those living in hard-to-reach areas.

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE  
CHAIRWOMAN

June 20, 2023

The Honorable Glenn Grothman  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1511 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Grothman:

Thank you for your letter regarding the status of the *Enhanced A-CAM Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, a proceeding in which the Federal Communications Commission sought comment on a proposal to revise the Alternative Connect America Model (A-CAM) program to provide additional universal service support to certain rural carriers in exchange for increasing deployment to more locations at higher speeds. I share your view that the agency's universal service programs have played a critical role delivering communications services to remote communities across the country. But in order to ensure the continued effectiveness of these programs, the Commission reviews them when time advances and technology changes. That's why in order to keep pace with the demand for reliable broadband and meet the needs of consumers today and into the future, we need to optimize the Commission's high-cost programs to bring higher speeds and greater bandwidth to consumers, particularly for those living in hard-to-reach areas.

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE  
CHAIRWOMAN

June 20, 2023

The Honorable Thomas Tiffany  
U.S. House of Representatives  
451 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Tiffany:

Thank you for your letter regarding the status of the *Enhanced A-CAM Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, a proceeding in which the Federal Communications Commission sought comment on a proposal to revise the Alternative Connect America Model (A-CAM) program to provide additional universal service support to certain rural carriers in exchange for increasing deployment to more locations at higher speeds. I share your view that the agency's universal service programs have played a critical role delivering communications services to remote communities across the country. But in order to ensure the continued effectiveness of these programs, the Commission reviews them when time advances and technology changes. That's why in order to keep pace with the demand for reliable broadband and meet the needs of consumers today and into the future, we need to optimize the Commission's high-cost programs to bring higher speeds and greater bandwidth to consumers, particularly for those living in hard-to-reach areas.

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE  
CHAIRWOMAN

June 20, 2023

The Honorable Dusty Johnson  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1714 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Johnson:

Thank you for your letter regarding the status of the *Enhanced A-CAM Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, a proceeding in which the Federal Communications Commission sought comment on a proposal to revise the Alternative Connect America Model (A-CAM) program to provide additional universal service support to certain rural carriers in exchange for increasing deployment to more locations at higher speeds. I share your view that the agency's universal service programs have played a critical role delivering communications services to remote communities across the country. But in order to ensure the continued effectiveness of these programs, the Commission reviews them when time advances and technology changes. That's why in order to keep pace with the demand for reliable broadband and meet the needs of consumers today and into the future, we need to optimize the Commission's high-cost programs to bring higher speeds and greater bandwidth to consumers, particularly for those living in hard-to-reach areas.

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE  
CHAIRWOMAN

June 20, 2023

The Honorable Randy Feenstra  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1440 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Feenstra:

Thank you for your letter regarding the status of the *Enhanced A-CAM Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, a proceeding in which the Federal Communications Commission sought comment on a proposal to revise the Alternative Connect America Model (A-CAM) program to provide additional universal service support to certain rural carriers in exchange for increasing deployment to more locations at higher speeds. I share your view that the agency's universal service programs have played a critical role delivering communications services to remote communities across the country. But in order to ensure the continued effectiveness of these programs, the Commission reviews them when time advances and technology changes. That's why in order to keep pace with the demand for reliable broadband and meet the needs of consumers today and into the future, we need to optimize the Commission's high-cost programs to bring higher speeds and greater bandwidth to consumers, particularly for those living in hard-to-reach areas.

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE  
CHAIRWOMAN

June 20, 2023

The Honorable Brad Finstad  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1605 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Finstad:

Thank you for your letter regarding the status of the *Enhanced A-CAM Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, a proceeding in which the Federal Communications Commission sought comment on a proposal to revise the Alternative Connect America Model (A-CAM) program to provide additional universal service support to certain rural carriers in exchange for increasing deployment to more locations at higher speeds. I share your view that the agency's universal service programs have played a critical role delivering communications services to remote communities across the country. But in order to ensure the continued effectiveness of these programs, the Commission reviews them when time advances and technology changes. That's why in order to keep pace with the demand for reliable broadband and meet the needs of consumers today and into the future, we need to optimize the Commission's high-cost programs to bring higher speeds and greater bandwidth to consumers, particularly for those living in hard-to-reach areas.

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE  
CHAIRWOMAN

June 20, 2023

The Honorable Jack Bergman  
U.S. House of Representatives  
566 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Bergman:

Thank you for your letter regarding the status of the *Enhanced A-CAM Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, a proceeding in which the Federal Communications Commission sought comment on a proposal to revise the Alternative Connect America Model (A-CAM) program to provide additional universal service support to certain rural carriers in exchange for increasing deployment to more locations at higher speeds. I share your view that the agency's universal service programs have played a critical role delivering communications services to remote communities across the country. But in order to ensure the continued effectiveness of these programs, the Commission reviews them when time advances and technology changes. That's why in order to keep pace with the demand for reliable broadband and meet the needs of consumers today and into the future, we need to optimize the Commission's high-cost programs to bring higher speeds and greater bandwidth to consumers, particularly for those living in hard-to-reach areas.

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In addition, I shared a rulemaking with my fellow Commissioners that, if adopted, would seek comment on how to address the immediate needs of legacy rate-of return support mechanisms, including the budget control mechanism and deployment obligations, while

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Sincerely,

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Jessica Rosenworcel



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE  
CHAIRWOMAN

June 20, 2023

The Honorable Chuck Edwards  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1505 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Edwards:

Thank you for your letter regarding the status of the *Enhanced A-CAM Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, a proceeding in which the Federal Communications Commission sought comment on a proposal to revise the Alternative Connect America Model (A-CAM) program to provide additional universal service support to certain rural carriers in exchange for increasing deployment to more locations at higher speeds. I share your view that the agency's universal service programs have played a critical role delivering communications services to remote communities across the country. But in order to ensure the continued effectiveness of these programs, the Commission reviews them when time advances and technology changes. That's why in order to keep pace with the demand for reliable broadband and meet the needs of consumers today and into the future, we need to optimize the Commission's high-cost programs to bring higher speeds and greater bandwidth to consumers, particularly for those living in hard-to-reach areas.

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE  
CHAIRWOMAN

June 20, 2023

The Honorable Marcus Molinaro  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1207 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Molinaro:

Thank you for your letter regarding the status of the *Enhanced A-CAM Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, a proceeding in which the Federal Communications Commission sought comment on a proposal to revise the Alternative Connect America Model (A-CAM) program to provide additional universal service support to certain rural carriers in exchange for increasing deployment to more locations at higher speeds. I share your view that the agency's universal service programs have played a critical role delivering communications services to remote communities across the country. But in order to ensure the continued effectiveness of these programs, the Commission reviews them when time advances and technology changes. That's why in order to keep pace with the demand for reliable broadband and meet the needs of consumers today and into the future, we need to optimize the Commission's high-cost programs to bring higher speeds and greater bandwidth to consumers, particularly for those living in hard-to-reach areas.

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE  
CHAIRWOMAN

June 20, 2023

The Honorable Michael Guest  
U.S. House of Representatives  
450 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Guest:

Thank you for your letter regarding the status of the *Enhanced A-CAM Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, a proceeding in which the Federal Communications Commission sought comment on a proposal to revise the Alternative Connect America Model (A-CAM) program to provide additional universal service support to certain rural carriers in exchange for increasing deployment to more locations at higher speeds. I share your view that the agency's universal service programs have played a critical role delivering communications services to remote communities across the country. But in order to ensure the continued effectiveness of these programs, the Commission reviews them when time advances and technology changes. That's why in order to keep pace with the demand for reliable broadband and meet the needs of consumers today and into the future, we need to optimize the Commission's high-cost programs to bring higher speeds and greater bandwidth to consumers, particularly for those living in hard-to-reach areas.

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE  
CHAIRWOMAN

June 20, 2023

The Honorable Andy Barr  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2430 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Barr:

Thank you for your letter regarding the status of the *Enhanced A-CAM Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, a proceeding in which the Federal Communications Commission sought comment on a proposal to revise the Alternative Connect America Model (A-CAM) program to provide additional universal service support to certain rural carriers in exchange for increasing deployment to more locations at higher speeds. I share your view that the agency's universal service programs have played a critical role delivering communications services to remote communities across the country. But in order to ensure the continued effectiveness of these programs, the Commission reviews them when time advances and technology changes. That's why in order to keep pace with the demand for reliable broadband and meet the needs of consumers today and into the future, we need to optimize the Commission's high-cost programs to bring higher speeds and greater bandwidth to consumers, particularly for those living in hard-to-reach areas.

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE  
CHAIRWOMAN

June 20, 2023

The Honorable David Rouzer  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2333 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Rouzer:

Thank you for your letter regarding the status of the *Enhanced A-CAM Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, a proceeding in which the Federal Communications Commission sought comment on a proposal to revise the Alternative Connect America Model (A-CAM) program to provide additional universal service support to certain rural carriers in exchange for increasing deployment to more locations at higher speeds. I share your view that the agency's universal service programs have played a critical role delivering communications services to remote communities across the country. But in order to ensure the continued effectiveness of these programs, the Commission reviews them when time advances and technology changes. That's why in order to keep pace with the demand for reliable broadband and meet the needs of consumers today and into the future, we need to optimize the Commission's high-cost programs to bring higher speeds and greater bandwidth to consumers, particularly for those living in hard-to-reach areas.

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE  
CHAIRWOMAN

June 20, 2023

The Honorable Austin Scott  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2185 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Scott:

Thank you for your letter regarding the status of the *Enhanced A-CAM Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, a proceeding in which the Federal Communications Commission sought comment on a proposal to revise the Alternative Connect America Model (A-CAM) program to provide additional universal service support to certain rural carriers in exchange for increasing deployment to more locations at higher speeds. I share your view that the agency's universal service programs have played a critical role delivering communications services to remote communities across the country. But in order to ensure the continued effectiveness of these programs, the Commission reviews them when time advances and technology changes. That's why in order to keep pace with the demand for reliable broadband and meet the needs of consumers today and into the future, we need to optimize the Commission's high-cost programs to bring higher speeds and greater bandwidth to consumers, particularly for those living in hard-to-reach areas.

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE  
CHAIRWOMAN

June 20, 2023

The Honorable Andrew Clyde  
U.S. House of Representatives  
445 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Clyde:

Thank you for your letter regarding the status of the *Enhanced A-CAM Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, a proceeding in which the Federal Communications Commission sought comment on a proposal to revise the Alternative Connect America Model (A-CAM) program to provide additional universal service support to certain rural carriers in exchange for increasing deployment to more locations at higher speeds. I share your view that the agency's universal service programs have played a critical role delivering communications services to remote communities across the country. But in order to ensure the continued effectiveness of these programs, the Commission reviews them when time advances and technology changes. That's why in order to keep pace with the demand for reliable broadband and meet the needs of consumers today and into the future, we need to optimize the Commission's high-cost programs to bring higher speeds and greater bandwidth to consumers, particularly for those living in hard-to-reach areas.

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE  
CHAIRWOMAN

June 20, 2023

The Honorable Ashley Hinson  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1717 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Hinson:

Thank you for your letter regarding the status of the *Enhanced A-CAM Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, a proceeding in which the Federal Communications Commission sought comment on a proposal to revise the Alternative Connect America Model (A-CAM) program to provide additional universal service support to certain rural carriers in exchange for increasing deployment to more locations at higher speeds. I share your view that the agency's universal service programs have played a critical role delivering communications services to remote communities across the country. But in order to ensure the continued effectiveness of these programs, the Commission reviews them when time advances and technology changes. That's why in order to keep pace with the demand for reliable broadband and meet the needs of consumers today and into the future, we need to optimize the Commission's high-cost programs to bring higher speeds and greater bandwidth to consumers, particularly for those living in hard-to-reach areas.

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE  
CHAIRWOMAN

June 20, 2023

The Honorable Zach Nunn  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1232 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Nunn:

Thank you for your letter regarding the status of the *Enhanced A-CAM Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, a proceeding in which the Federal Communications Commission sought comment on a proposal to revise the Alternative Connect America Model (A-CAM) program to provide additional universal service support to certain rural carriers in exchange for increasing deployment to more locations at higher speeds. I share your view that the agency's universal service programs have played a critical role delivering communications services to remote communities across the country. But in order to ensure the continued effectiveness of these programs, the Commission reviews them when time advances and technology changes. That's why in order to keep pace with the demand for reliable broadband and meet the needs of consumers today and into the future, we need to optimize the Commission's high-cost programs to bring higher speeds and greater bandwidth to consumers, particularly for those living in hard-to-reach areas.

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE  
CHAIRWOMAN

June 20, 2023

The Honorable Derrick Van Orden  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1513 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Van Orden:

Thank you for your letter regarding the status of the *Enhanced A-CAM Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, a proceeding in which the Federal Communications Commission sought comment on a proposal to revise the Alternative Connect America Model (A-CAM) program to provide additional universal service support to certain rural carriers in exchange for increasing deployment to more locations at higher speeds. I share your view that the agency's universal service programs have played a critical role delivering communications services to remote communities across the country. But in order to ensure the continued effectiveness of these programs, the Commission reviews them when time advances and technology changes. That's why in order to keep pace with the demand for reliable broadband and meet the needs of consumers today and into the future, we need to optimize the Commission's high-cost programs to bring higher speeds and greater bandwidth to consumers, particularly for those living in hard-to-reach areas.

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE  
CHAIRWOMAN

June 20, 2023

The Honorable James R. Comer  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2410 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Comer:

Thank you for your letter regarding the status of the *Enhanced A-CAM Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, a proceeding in which the Federal Communications Commission sought comment on a proposal to revise the Alternative Connect America Model (A-CAM) program to provide additional universal service support to certain rural carriers in exchange for increasing deployment to more locations at higher speeds. I share your view that the agency's universal service programs have played a critical role delivering communications services to remote communities across the country. But in order to ensure the continued effectiveness of these programs, the Commission reviews them when time advances and technology changes. That's why in order to keep pace with the demand for reliable broadband and meet the needs of consumers today and into the future, we need to optimize the Commission's high-cost programs to bring higher speeds and greater bandwidth to consumers, particularly for those living in hard-to-reach areas.

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WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE  
CHAIRWOMAN

June 20, 2023

The Honorable Michelle Fischbach  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1004 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Fischbach:

Thank you for your letter regarding the status of the *Enhanced A-CAM Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, a proceeding in which the Federal Communications Commission sought comment on a proposal to revise the Alternative Connect America Model (A-CAM) program to provide additional universal service support to certain rural carriers in exchange for increasing deployment to more locations at higher speeds. I share your view that the agency's universal service programs have played a critical role delivering communications services to remote communities across the country. But in order to ensure the continued effectiveness of these programs, the Commission reviews them when time advances and technology changes. That's why in order to keep pace with the demand for reliable broadband and meet the needs of consumers today and into the future, we need to optimize the Commission's high-cost programs to bring higher speeds and greater bandwidth to consumers, particularly for those living in hard-to-reach areas.

I am pleased to inform you that last week, I circulated a Report and Order for my colleagues' consideration that would create the Enhanced A-CAM program. If adopted, the Report and Order would provide a voluntary pathway where current A-CAM carriers could elect to serve all locations in their service areas at 100/20 Mbps or greater in return for an extension of the A-CAM program and an incremental increase in support for expensive-to-serve areas. The Report and Order would also provide a path for carriers currently receiving Connect America Fund Broadband Loop Support (CAF BLS) legacy support to transition to Enhanced A-CAM model-based support. In addition, the Enhanced A-CAM program would include requirements to complement existing federal, state, and local funding programs, including the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) program authorized by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. By providing carriers who elect to participate in the Enhanced A-CAM program the opportunity to establish an enforceable commitment to locations they serve, broadband funding can be used efficiently to maximize the deployment of high-quality broadband service across the United States.

In addition, I shared a rulemaking with my fellow Commissioners that, if adopted, would seek comment on how to address the immediate needs of legacy rate-of return support mechanisms, including the budget control mechanism and deployment obligations, while

balancing our objectives of maintaining our commitment to supporting broadband at evolving levels of service and also avoiding unnecessary duplication of support in light of other available funding programs. Finally, I also circulated a inquiry in order to develop a record that takes a longer term view on the future of the high-cost program in order to ensure affordable and available broadband services in the years to come.

I hope this information is helpful. Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jessica Rosenworcel", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jessica Rosenworcel



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE  
CHAIRWOMAN

June 20, 2023

The Honorable Mariannette Miller-Meeks  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1034 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Miller-Meeks:

Thank you for your letter regarding the status of the *Enhanced A-CAM Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, a proceeding in which the Federal Communications Commission sought comment on a proposal to revise the Alternative Connect America Model (A-CAM) program to provide additional universal service support to certain rural carriers in exchange for increasing deployment to more locations at higher speeds. I share your view that the agency's universal service programs have played a critical role delivering communications services to remote communities across the country. But in order to ensure the continued effectiveness of these programs, the Commission reviews them when time advances and technology changes. That's why in order to keep pace with the demand for reliable broadband and meet the needs of consumers today and into the future, we need to optimize the Commission's high-cost programs to bring higher speeds and greater bandwidth to consumers, particularly for those living in hard-to-reach areas.

I am pleased to inform you that last week, I circulated a Report and Order for my colleagues' consideration that would create the Enhanced A-CAM program. If adopted, the Report and Order would provide a voluntary pathway where current A-CAM carriers could elect to serve all locations in their service areas at 100/20 Mbps or greater in return for an extension of the A-CAM program and an incremental increase in support for expensive-to-serve areas. The Report and Order would also provide a path for carriers currently receiving Connect America Fund Broadband Loop Support (CAF BLS) legacy support to transition to Enhanced A-CAM model-based support. In addition, the Enhanced A-CAM program would include requirements to complement existing federal, state, and local funding programs, including the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) program authorized by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. By providing carriers who elect to participate in the Enhanced A-CAM program the opportunity to establish an enforceable commitment to locations they serve, broadband funding can be used efficiently to maximize the deployment of high-quality broadband service across the United States.

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